

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BERLIN 05556 191125Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-13 ACDA-07 /078 W

-----191944Z 009349 /43

R 191100Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4345

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PARGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION USBERLIN UNN

USMISSION NATO

CONFIDENTIAL BERLIN 5556

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GE, WB, UR

SUBJECT: SOVIET EMBASSY GIVES CLARIFICATION OF ABRASIMOV

REMARKS ON ALLIED RIGHTS IN EAST BERLIN

REF: BERLIN 5506

1. THE SOVIET EMBASSY IN EAST BERLIN HAS  
RESPONDED TO AN INQUIRY FROM A REUTERS JOURNALIST  
WHICH CLARIFIES SOVIET AMBASSADOR ABRASIMOV'S  
STATEMENT ON ALLIED RIGHTS IN EAST BERLIN IN HIS  
MARCH 10 PRESS CONFERENCE.

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2. THE NEUES DEUTSCHLAND REPORT OF ABRASIMOV'S  
REMARKS (REFTEL) READ AS FOLLOWS: "AS FAR AS RIGHTS,  
MILITARY RIGHTS OF THE THREE WESTERN POWERS IN THE  
'EASTERN SECTOR OF THE CITY' ARE CONCERNED, I  
MUST SAY, THERE IS NO SUCH THING (SO ETWAS GIBT ES  
NICHT). THERE IS NO EASTERN SECTOR, THERE IS  
ONLY A CAPITAL OF THE GDR. CONCERNING THE RITHS OF THE THREE

POWERS, WE DO NOT DENY THEIR RIGHTS IN WEST BERLIN, FOR  
THERE THREE OCCUPATION ZONES ACTUALLY STILL EXIST."

3. ACCORDING TO A BBC CORRESPONDENT IN EAST BERLIN, SOVIET EMBASSY COUNSELOR SAGATELIAN, IN RESPONSE TO A QUERY BY A REUTERS CORRESPONDENT, ISSUED A CORRECTION TO THE ND VERSION OF ABRASIMOV'S STATEMENT. NOTING UNCLARITY RESULTING FROM THE TRANSLATION OF ABRASIMOV'S REMARKS, GIVEN IN RUSSIAN, INTO GERMAN, THE SOVIET EMBASSY NOW MAINTAINS THAT ABRASIMOV SAID: "AS FAR AS THE RIGHTS, MILITARY RIGHTS OF THE THREE WESTERN ALLIES IN THE 'EASTERN SECTOR OF THE CITY' ARE CONCERNED, I MUST SAY THAT SUCH A SECTOR OF THE CITY DOES NOT EXIST." SAGATELIAN ADDED THAT IT WAS UP TO "OUR COMRADES" TO PROVIDE ANY FURTHER CLARIFICATION.

4. COMMENT: WHETHER THE RESULT OF AN ERROR IN TRANSLATION OR A CHANGE IN ABRASIMOV'S STATEMENT ON ALLIED RIGHTS IN EAST BERLIN APPEARS TO HAVE EVOKE SOVIET CONCERN AND PERHAPS DISPLEASURE. THE VERSION ISSUED TO REUTERS TRIES TO MAKE CLEAR THAT ABRASIMOV DISPUTED ONLY THE FORMULATION "EASTERN SECTOR" AND DID NOT DENY THAT ALLIED MILITARY RIGHTS CONTINUE TO EXIST THERE. POLANSKY

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Subject:** SOVIET EMBASSY GIVES CLARIFICATION OF ABRASIMOV REMARKS ON ALLIED RIGHTS IN EAST BERLIN  
**TAGS:** PFOR, GC, WB, UR, (ABRASIMOV, PYOTR)  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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